

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request entry of the amendment and reconsideration of the claims. Claims 1, 7, and 8 have been amended. Claims 13-29 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. After entry of the amendment, claims 1, 6-8, 12, and 30-37 will be pending. Applicants submit the amendment places the claims in condition for allowance.

Applicants reserve the right to pursue the cancelled subject matter in a continuation application.

Written Description

Claims 1, 7, 12, 30, 32, 34, and 36 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as allegedly failing to comply with the written description requirement. Without acquiescing to the rejection and solely for the purpose of advancing prosecution, Applicants have amended claims 1 and 7 to incorporate the features of now cancelled claims 26 and 28 respectively. Thus, claims 1 and 7 as amended recite the limitations of claim 26 and 28, which were not subject to the current written description rejection. Thus, Applicants submit the claims as amended fully to comply with §112, first paragraph. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Nonstatutory Obviousness-Type Double Patenting

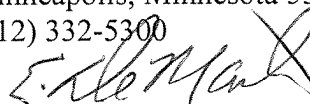
Claims 1, 6-8, 12, and 26-37 were rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-4 of U.S. 7,119,177. Applicants acknowledge the rejection and respectfully request the rejection be held in abeyance until allowable subject matter is indicated.

Conclusion

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants submit the amendment places the application in condition for allowance and respectfully request a Notice of Allowance. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

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